

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Albania/USSR/Rumania/Poland

DATE DISTR. 21 July 1950

SUBJECT Vessels of the Albanian Navy

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1. [redacted] the small Albanian naval force is currently being organized, and motor torpedo boat maneuvers are being held daily between the ports of Vlone and Durres. The number of these craft was not specified [redacted] it is believed that these consist of not more than six in each port, all armed with torpedo tubes and depth bombs for anti-submarine use.* The crews of these craft are described as being mostly Albanians, with some Soviet and Rumanian personnel attached.
2. [redacted] the Albanian Navy also has six high-speed (sic) craft of the minesweeper type, as well as several tug-boats. All these vessels are armed and officered by Soviet-trained personnel who had recently returned from the Soviet Union; the efficiency and training of these men is described as excellent.

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* Comment: With regard to the recent report of the alleged dispatch from Gdovnia to Albania of nine torpedo boats, [redacted] confirmation [redacted] of the arrival in an Albanian port of these vessels. [redacted] regarding the apparent absence of shipping through the Straits of Otranto.

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